

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 16 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrophotographic toner comprising:

a fixing resin; and

a colorant;

wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises a black toner using a titanium ~~compound~~ oxide comprising no carbon black as said colorant, and

wherein the titanium oxide exhibits oil absorption of not higher than 80 ml/100 g.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1, wherein said titanium ~~compound~~ oxide ~~exhibits oil absorption of not higher than 80 ml/100 g~~ and has a Brunauer, Emmet and Teller (BET) specific surface area of not larger than 100 m²/g.
4. (Currently Amended) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1 [[3]], wherein said titanium ~~compound~~ ~~comprises titanium~~ oxide is obtained by reduction of titanium dioxide.
5. (Currently Amended) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1 [[2]],

wherein said titanium oxide comprises titanium oxide obtained by heating a mixture of titanium dioxide and metallic titanium in a vacuum.

6. (Currently Amended) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1, wherein said toner comprises a two-component toner using a magnetic carrier.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An electrophotographic toner comprising:
 - a fixing resin; and
 - a colorant;wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises an electrophotographic two-component black toner using magnetic iron oxide comprising no carbon black as said colorant.
8. (Previously Presented) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1, wherein said toner comprises titanium dioxide as an external additive.
9. (Previously Presented) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 7, wherein said toner comprises titanium dioxide as an external additive.
10. (Previously Presented) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1, wherein the maximum of absorption peaks in a heat-up time absorption curve in a differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) curve of said toner measured by a differential scanning calorimeter is in a range of from 50°C to 120°C.

11. (Original) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 7, wherein the maximum of absorption peaks in a heat-up time absorption calorie curve in a DSC curve of said toner measured by a differential scanning calorimeter is in a range of from 50°C to 120°C.

12. (Currently Amended) An image-forming system comprising:

- an electrostatic charge holding member;
- a developing portion using an electrophotographic toner for actualizing an electrostatic charge latent image formed on said electrostatic charge holding member;
- a transfer portion for transferring the actualized toner image onto a recording medium;
- a cleaning portion for cleaning up the toner image remaining on said electrostatic charge holding member; and
- a fixing portion for fixing the toner image transferred onto said recording medium,

wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises:

- a fixing resin; and
- a colorant, and

wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises a black toner using a titanium ~~compound~~ oxide comprising no carbon black as said colorant.

13. (Original) The image-forming system according to Claim 12, wherein said developing portion includes center feed type developing magnetic rolls which includes developing magnetic rolls rotating in a forward direction and developing magnetic rolls rotating in a

backward direction with respect to a direction of movement of said electrostatic charge holding member.

14. (Previously Presented) An image-forming system comprising:

an electrostatic charge holding member;

a developing portion using an electrophotographic toner for actualizing an electrostatic charge latent image formed on said electrostatic charge holding member;

a transfer portion for transferring the actualized toner image onto a recording medium;

a cleaning portion for cleaning up the toner image remaining on said electrostatic charge holding member; and

a fixing portion for fixing the toner image transferred onto said recording medium,

wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises:

a fixing resin; and

a colorant, and

wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises an electrophotographic two-component black toner using magnetic iron oxide containing no carbon black as said colorant.

15. (Original) The image-forming system according to Claim 14, wherein said developing portion includes center feed type developing magnetic rolls which includes developing magnetic rolls rotating in a forward direction and developing magnetic rolls rotating in a backward direction with respect to a direction of movement of said electrostatic charge

holding member.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 1, wherein said titanium ~~compound~~ oxide comprises at least one of ~~titanium~~ compounds having oxidation numbers of $[-1]$, 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4, ~~alloys of titanium and at least one of Al, Cr, Fe, Mn, Mo, V, titanium iron oxide, titanite iron ore, titanate, strontium titanate, lead titanate, and barium titanate.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 4, wherein said titanium oxide ~~compound~~ comprises a compound having the formula Ti_nO_{2n-1} , wherein n is in a range from 1 to 5.

20. (Previously Presented) The electrophotographic toner according to Claim 9, wherein a primary particle size of said external additive is not smaller than 20 nm.

21. (New) An electrophotographic toner comprising:
a fixing resin; and
a colorant,
wherein said electrophotographic toner comprises a black toner using a titanium compound containing no carbon black as said colorant, and
wherein said toner contains titanium dioxide as an external additive.

22. (New) The electrophotographic toner according to claim 21, wherein said titanium compound exhibits oil absorption of not higher than 80 ml/100 g and has a Brunauer, Emmet and Teller (BET) specific surface area of not larger than 100 m²/g.

23. (New) The electrophotographic toner according to claim 21, wherein the titanium compound is selected from the group consisting of compounds having oxidation numbers of 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4.

24. (New) The electrophotographic toner according to claim 21, wherein the titanium compound comprises an alloy of titanium and at least one of Al, Cr, Fe, Mn, Mo and V.

25. (New) The electrophotographic toner according to claim 21, wherein the titanium compound comprises at least one of titanium iron oxide, titanitic iron ore, titanate, strontium titanate, lead titanate, and barium titanate.

26. (New) The electrophotographic toner according to claim 1, wherein the titanium oxide comprise TiO or a compound having a formula Ti_nO_{2n-1}, wherein n≥2.

27. (New) The electrophotographic toner according to claim 8, wherein the external additive has a primary particle size not smaller than 20nm.